

ARMOR OF INDIANS.

One Type Believed to Have Had Its Origin in Japan.—Interesting Conclusions Drawn From a Study of the Armor in the National Museum at Washington—Various Kinds of Armor of Wood, Ivory and Hides.

[Washington Correspondence New York Sun.] An addition to the ethnological collection of the United States National museum of great interest to students of early American history has recently been set up in one of the large halls devoted to Indian life. It consists of suits of primitive American armor, the study of which by the ethnological department of the museum has developed many valuable facts. A pamphlet on the subject is being prepared by Dr. Walter Hough of the department of ethnology, and it is believed that an intimate connection between the armor of Japan and parts of Siberia and that of northwestern North America will be established.

It is not generally known that most of the tribes of North American Indians used for protection against the arrows and spears of their enemies in time of war adequate body, head, and leg armor. Of course after the discovery of America and the advent of the white man's powder and ball, no rude substance with which they were acquainted could serve to protect them. For they were not sufficiently skilled in the working of metal to form it into plates for such use. Most of the armor was made from the skins of animals thoroughly tanned and hardened. Further north in Alaska it was constructed of plates of walrus ivory fastened to leather with thongs of seal skin. According to Dr. Hough the body armor of the American tribes may be divided into six types—plate armor, slat armor, rod armor, band armor, skin armor, and cotton-padded armor. The plate armor was formed of rows of overlapping plates of ivory, perforated and lashed together with thongs of rawhide. This was the armor found among the Chukchis of eastern Siberia and the Eskimos, and the form of lashing and the adjustment of the plates are identical with several types of Japanese armor. The slat armor consisted of a row of wooden slats twisted together by weaving with fine sinew and other cords. This was found among the Sitkans, Shastas, Iroquois, and even the Virginians. The rod armor consisted of a series of wooden rods about half an inch in diameter, woven together in a fashion somewhat like the slat armor, with which it is confused. The band armor consisted of bands of skin arranged in telescopic fashion. The one recently mounted in the National museum is made of seven bands of seal skin lashed and tanned. These bands are connected by heavy thongs and hung in an enlarging series like an inverted telescopic drinking cup. A square breastplate of doubled hide in this armor protected the neck. It hung really very much like a skirt, and must have looked rather cumbersome when the warriors were in action. The skin armor consisted of coats of hardened hide. The elk, moose, and caribou all furnished Indian tribes with the best of protection against the arrows of enemies. Coats of hide were used by many of the western tribes. The cotton padded armor was used in the south by the Mexicans, the Isthmians, and the Peruvians.

The National museum possesses a great number of specimens of armor from the Eskimos and Chukchis, from Cape Prince of Wales, Diomed Island, St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, and Cape Wankarem, Siberia. The most perfect specimens are from Cape Prince of Wales and Diomed Island. They were collected by H. R. Thornton, E. W. Nelson, Commodore John Rogers, U. S. N.; Dr. A. H. Hoff, U. S. A.; J. McLean, and Herbert G. Ogden. It is the armor found at Cape Prince of Wales that is identical in some of its forms with well known forms of plate armor in Japan. The small, flat, oblong plates of ivory are lashed in series with rawhide thongs passing through the holes and fastened, as with the Japanese armor, with a clove hitch. The longer edges of the plates are chamfered to admit of overlapping and curving the armor around the body. This device also permitted the armor to be rolled up in a small compass when not in use. A whole coat consists of from three to five imbricating rows of plates with off-sets under the armpits and straps for the shoulders and armpits. The plates were dug up in a marsh at Cape Prince of Wales, and other plates of iron and copper were found on St. Lawrence Island. The remarkable and interesting fact in connection with this armor is that it is not found further south than Cape Prince of Wales and St. Lawrence Island. From these regions it is traced directly to the Chukchis of eastern Siberia. From the Chukchis of Siberia it is traced directly to Japan. The Japanese coats of armor formed of slats and plates, similar to the armor described, though of different material, are cut and bound as well as hung in the same manner.

The hoop or band armor is found only in Siberia, and like the plate armor, recalls well known forms used in Japan. Hoop armor is interesting as showing the reproduction of the styles of plate armor in skins. It is made of horizontal bands of sealskin instead of rows of ivory plates, and the rings telescope together when the armor is not in use. The type of armor is to be compared with the banded mail of the middle ages. The construction of the upper portion of it is unique. It serves as a shield and neck fender, and was designed probably to protect the warrior from an attack from behind. The whole armor is extremely heavy and very clumsy. The Chukchis of Plover bay formerly wore a cuirass made of long strips of baleen reaching from the neck to the middle of the thigh. This armor was very elastic. The Chukchis were said to have used this armor in going over to trade with the hostile Eskimos of St. Lawrence Island, which was a dangerous undertaking and compelled sleepless caution. Ivory, it seems, was very scarce on the Asiatic side of Behring sea, and the materials for the Chukchis armor were procured by barter with the Eskimos. It is certain, that at the same time, that fossil-plate armor was made by the Chukchis Indians.

A tribe called the Galliks, of Siberia, had an armor composed of plates of iron lashed together with a neck cover composed of iron plates lashed together in a fashion somewhat similar to the plate armor of the Chukchis. Further down the Siberian coast toward Japan, which would seem to be the place where the plate armor ranging from that country into the American continent originated, similar forms with pot-shaped helmets and neck covers are to be found.

Some of the armor at the museum is decorated with painting, although decoration is not frequently found. Most of the skin armor has fringes. The slat armor apparently bore totemic devices, and the rod armor was diversified by bands of different colored cords or by painted bands. The painted bands sometimes indicated the rank of the owner. In other cases they showed the number of enemies slain or captured by the wearer. On the inside of two coats from southern Alaska are elaborate colored totemic paintings. As the paintings are on the inside, and when the armor is worn not to be seen, it is thought that they were not for ornament, but were intended as a fetishistic guard against the arrows of the enemy. The National museum contains no specimens of the padded armor of Mexico and Central America, and it is not believed that any are in extant. The use of padded armor has been widespread, and in Mesoamerican countries it was to be found up to the present date.

On the Asiatic slope there is abundant evidence to show that the Iroquois used body armor, which was constructed of wood bound with cords, like the slat or rod armor already mentioned. They had also defensive coverings for the thighs and arms made of the same material. Their cuirasses were considered proof against arrows mounted with bone or stone, but not against those with iron heads. As a rule the helmet was the most striking and prominent portion of the armor. The war bonnets and other head coverings of the American Indians may be classed with the helmets in many cases, and the function of the helmets, next to protection, seemed to be to adorn the head. The design of the helmet of the American Indians was grotesque and horrid, so as to inspire fear. There is a large series of northwestern coast helmets in the National museum. They are all of wood, fitted the head closely, and are carved on top to represent animals and grotesque faces, which are painted. One of them is of wood covered with leather. Another like helmet from the Taku Indians of southern Alaska is carved from solid in the form of a Japanese type, and is called the kabuto, or pot helmet. The front is worked out in the form of a grotesque face, with deep furrows across the nose, cheeks and forehead, like New Zealand tattooing, and is painted red, green and black. There are well-carved ears on the side. The mask, or face, projects above the crown of the helmet, and the upper ridge of it has a row of wooden pegs which once held a fringe of sealion whiskers.

The conclusions which Dr. Hough has drawn from the study of the armor of the Indians of North America are as follows:

1. That a majority of the American armor had advanced to the stage where they made use of body armor; that is, sedentary tribes.

2. This also implies differentiation of weapons, rendering the armor necessary or independent invention. The coat of thick skin which has appeared at all times and places may have arisen independently, following the prime idea of the concomitance of weapon and anti-weapon.

3. Plate armor in America is a clear case of the migration of invention, its congeners having been traced from Japan northeastward through the Ainu, Gallaiks, and Chukchis, across Behring strait by the intervening island to the western Eskimos. Here the armor spread southward from the narrowest part of the strait, passing into the slat armor of the northwest coast, which is possibly a development of the plate armor. The plate armor may have spread to the eastern coast of North America. Hence it appears to be conclusive that plate armor in America had Asiatic origin. The date of this introduction is not considered.

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CURES THE TOBACCO HABIT IN 4 TO 10 DAYS OR MONEY REFUNDED.

Use All the Tobacco You Want Till Your "Craving" is Gone.

NARCOTI-CURE is the only remedy in the world that acts directly on the nerves and drives the nicotine from the system in from four to ten days. It leaves the patient in better health than before taking, and is warranted free from any injurious ingredients.

NARCOTI-CURE is popular because it allows the patient to use all the tobacco he wants while under treatment, or until the "craving" and "hankering" are gone. It is then no sacrifice to throw away tobacco forever.

NARCOTI-CURE is sold at the uniform price of \$5.00 a bottle and one bottle cures.

Money refunded if a cure is not effected when taken according to directions.

PROF. W. N. WAITE,
Of Amherst, Mass., Claimed Tobacco for
40 Years, and Was Cured by
NARCOTI-CURE.

AMHERST, Mass., February 8, 1905.

THE NARCOTI-CURE CO.,
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen—Replying to yours of the
1st, would say that I have used tobacco
for 40 years, and I have consumed
a decent plug a day, besides smoking
considerably. I commenced to use
tobacco when I was only 11 years old,
and have never been able to give up
the habit until I have tried NARCOTI-CURE,
although I have tried other so-called
remedies without effect. After using your
remedy four days, all "hankering" for
chewing disappeared, and in four days
more smoking became unpleasant.
I have no further desire for the weed,
and experienced no bad effects whatever.
I am gaining in flesh, and feel better than
I have for a long time. To all who wish
to be free from the tobacco habit I
would say, use NARCOTI-CURE.

Yours truly, W. N. WAITE.

china, and all sorts of knick-knacks.

The relief of great men appeal to us.

There is a great deal of talk about

the noble lord's room in the

foreign office gave rise to the report

that he took snuff. This is part of

the stage machinery of the diplomatist,

and credulous persons believed that Lord

Rosebery used snuff in his interviews

with ambassadors. As matter of fact,

he is a collector of snuff-boxes. He

possesses those of Napoleon and Pitt,

also one belonging to Hogarth, and en-

graved by the artist himself, which he

got as a gift. For rare and odd books

likewise he rummages in shops. His

taste for animals includes a fondness

for badgers, several families of those

being carefully preserved in Dalmeny

woods.—The Woman at Home.

THE NORTH HAVEN.

July 16.—Nattie Forbes of North Hill

won the second prize in the Riverside

Driving park one mile bicycle race on

Thursday of last week, making the last

half in one minute and fourteen seconds,

the mile in 2:42. Master Forbes is only

seventeen years old and is a clerk in

the Rhinecliff and Pawnee coal office in

New Haven. The wheel was a medium

weight road machine.

Miss Elizabeth Blakelee of Pasadena,

Cal., is the guest of Mrs. G. J. Merz and

will visit other friends and relatives in

North Haven.

Rev. Manly D. Ormes of Colorado

Springs preached very acceptably to the

people of the Congregational church last

Sunday and conducted the social prayer

meeting in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mansfield spent

Sunday with Mr. Mansfield's father,

James Mansfield.

Mrs. E. D. S. Goodyear, Miss Mary

B. Goodyear and Miss Barbara Goodyear

went on the excursion to Glen Island

last week Thursday and enjoyed the

day very much. Mrs. Bertha G.

Bradley, who is staying on Neptune Is-

land, met the party and spent part of

the day with them.

Thrown Down Two Stories.

Portsmouth, N. H., July 16.—This

noon Patrick Driscoll, a mason's ten-

der, employed on the new extension of

Frank Jones' brewery, while in a fit

of anger seized George Tucker, mason,

and threw him headlong from the sec-

ond story wall to the unfinished floor

below, a distance of sixteen feet.

Tucker's course was diverted by the

prompt action of another man named

Lyons and instead of striking on an

iron girder he went between two girders

and struck on a covered arch. He is

thought to have sustained internal

injuries. Driscoll made his escape and

has not yet been captured. If found

he will be held to await the result of

Tucker's injuries.

Fouled With a Ship.

Quarantine, S. I., July 16.—The

schooner Cassie Jameson of Boston,

while tacking down the upper bay to-

day with very light southeast air and

strong ebb tide, fouled the ship Glen-

croft (Br.) at anchor off Clifton, S. I.

The schooner's starboard mizen shrouds

were caught in the ship's yards and

dragged away; also mizen chain-plates

badly damaged. The ship was unin-

jured. The schooner anchored to make

repairs.

Killed by an Elevator.

North Adams, Mass., July 16.—Cath-

arine Dacey, the six-year-old daughter

of Mrs. Catharine C. Dacey, who came

to this town from Boston last December,

was killed by an elevator at the North

Adams hospital this morning. Mrs.

Dacey is employed in the hospital and

the girl was playing in the corridors.

She leaned over the guard rail of the

elevator shaft and started the ele-